

I claim:

1 1. A point of sale (POS) surveillance system for comparing a cash register
2 readout with a visual record of items purchased comprising:
3 a cash register which produces an electronic report of a sales transaction;
4 a camera which makes a visual image of goods which are subject to said sales
5 transaction; and
6 a processor coupled to said camera and cash register, which processor creates a
7 record in which said visual image of goods and electronic report are correlated with
8 each other.

9 2. The POS surveillance system of claim 1 further comprising at least one digital
10 recorder for storing said record of said correlated visual image of goods and electronic
11 report.

12 3. The POS surveillance system of claim 2 wherein said digital recorder stores a
13 multiplicity of correlated visual images of goods and electronic reports corresponding to
14 a corresponding multiplicity of sales transactions.

1 4. The POS surveillance system of claim 1 wherein said report from said cash
2 register is in a video graphics array (VGA) format and further comprising a conversion
3 device to convert said electronic report to a television compatible format.

1 5. The POS surveillance system of claim 1 further comprising a multi-picture
2 display device in which said correlated visual image of goods and electronic report are
3 displayed.

1 6. The POS surveillance system of claim 5 where said multi-picture display
2 device comprises a picture in picture (PIP) output displaying said electronic report
3 adjacent to said visual image.

1 7. The POS surveillance system of claim 1 comprising at least one additional
2 camera.

1 8. The POS surveillance system of claim 1 comprising at least one additional
2 cash register.

1 9. The POS surveillance system of claim 1 comprising a plurality of cash
2 registers, a plurality of cameras, and wherein said processor simultaneously displays
3 electronic reports from said plurality of cash registers and corresponding visual images
4 of goods from said plurality of cameras, whereby a security agent at a remote location

5 may simultaneously view in real time a corresponding plurality of sales transactions with
6 corresponding visual records from a plurality of distinct points of sale.

1 10. The POS surveillance system of claim 1 further comprising means for
2 creating a permanent record of said electronic report and said corresponding visual
3 image of said goods correlated to said sales transaction.

1 11. The POS surveillance system of claim 1 further comprising an automatic
2 inventory record system for keeping track of merchandise remaining in stock.

1 12. A point of sale (POS) surveillance system kit for use with a computer and a
2 cash register with VGA readout comprising:

3 a camera with visual readout;

4 a VGA-to-TV conversion device;

5 a cable for cash register readout adapted for connection to the conversion
6 device;

7 a cable for camera output adapted for connection to the computer;

8 a cable for output of the conversion device and adapted for connection to the
9 computer, and

10 wherein said computer is arranged and configured under software control to
11 create a permanent record of the cash register readout and a corresponding said visual
12 record for easy recall, said software also comprising picture in picture (PIP) capability
13 and programming for processing the cash register and camera visual readout and for

14 graphically displaying correlated images of said cash register readout and camera
15 visual readout.

1 13. The POS surveillance system kit of claim 12 wherein said computer is further
2 arranged and configured by software control to include an automatic inventory recording
3 system for keeping track of merchandise remaining in stock.

1 14. A point of sale (POS) surveillance system kit for a plurality of points of sale
2 (POS), a corresponding plurality of cash registers with readout for use with a computer
3 comprising:

4 (a) at least one camera per POS with a camera output,
5 (b) at least one VGA-to-TV conversion device per POS,
6 (c) a cable for each cash register readout to a respective said conversion device,
7 (d) a cable for each camera output adapted for connection to the computer,
8 (e) a cable for each output of a respective conversion device and adapted for
9 connection to the computer, and
10 (f) wherein the computer is arranged and configured by software control to create
11 a permanent record of each said cash register readout and a corresponding said visual
12 record of goods which were sold at the POS corresponding to said cash register
13 readout, said software further providing picture in picture (PIP) capability and
14 programming for processing cash register readout and camera output from each POS
15 and for displaying the cash register readout and camera output in a correlated visual
16 format on a screen.

1 15. The POS surveillance system kit of claim 14 wherein the software also
2 comprises an automatic inventory recording system for keeping track of merchandise
3 remaining in stock.

1 16. A method providing point of sale (POS) surveillance comprising:

2 (a) receiving and storing data from a cash register transaction readout
3 during a purchase transaction;

4 (b) making, receiving, and storing a visual record by means of a camera
5 positioned to capture a visual image of goods corresponding with the cash
6 register transaction readout;

7 (c) processing and transferring the cash register transaction readout and
8 visual image of goods corresponding with the cash register transaction readout to
9 a remote location;

10 (d) displaying the cash register transaction readout and visual image of
11 goods corresponding with the cash register transaction readout on a screen as
12 adjacent images.

1 17. The method of claim 16 further comprising:

2 comparing the cash register readout with the visual record to determine
3 discrepancies between items paid for and items leaving the store with customers;
4 and

5 selectively recalling stored data and stored records for evidence of
6 discrepancies.

1 18. A method of providing point of sale (POS) surveillance comprising the
2 steps of:

3 generating a cash register electronic report of a sales transaction;

4 generating a visual image of goods which are subject to said sales
5 transaction;

6 correlating said visual image of goods and electronic report with each
7 other in a record; and

8 comparing said electronic report with a visual record of items purchased in
9 said record to determine any discrepancy between goods actually sold and those
10 reported in said electronic report.

1 19. The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of maintaining
2 an inventory of goods based on said electronic reports in accordance with
3 corrected said discrepancy between goods actually sold and those reported in
4 said electronic report.

5 20. The POS surveillance system kit of claim 14 further comprising at
6 least one input port unit for connection with the output cables of the at least one
7 camera and the at least on conversion device.

8